CLAIMS

1. A method for creating visual telepresence for a large
   number of simultaneous users comprising the steps of

   a. Simultaneously and continuously processing sets
      of images from a plurality of cameras to produce
      sets of short visual sequences that provide for
      virtual short movements in the environment; and

   b. Routing these many simultaneous repetitive short
      sequences to a plurality of user service
      processes; and

   c. Composing these short sequences into continuous
      video streams that provide convincing visual
      display of telepresence to many simultaneous
      users.

2. The method in claim 1 wherein

   a. The user commands are used to determine which
      virtual path to switch to at the next short
      sequence juncture for each individual user

3. The method in claim 1 wherein

   a. Some or all of the short visual sequences provide
      for stationary views of the environment

27

4. The method in claim 1 wherein

    a. The length of short sequences is one frame

5. The method in claim 2 wherein

    a. Some or all of the short virtual short sequences

       provide for stationary views of the environment

6. The method of Claim 5 wherein

    a. The length of short sequences is one frame